

EMS ART & DESIGN

**ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM
COLLEGE ART AND DESIGN NEWSLETTER
TERM 1 2024-2025**



Once again, the Art department have begun with exciting, vibrant lessons and enrichment this term. We have, for another consecutive year, achieved record breaking results, led various Primary Arts Projects and delivered intense GCSE ceramic masterclasses.

Record breaking results, Again!!!

English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College is celebrating another record-breaking set of Art and Design results.

The results achieved by year 11 GCSE Art and Design students were above those ever-recorded pre-pandemic in school and the percentage of 9-8 and 9-7 grades was also higher than those in previous years. All culminating in an impressive Progress 8 score of 2.1 across the Arts.

This year: GCSE • 21% of grades were 9's • 40% of grades were 9-8's • 51% of grades were 9-7's • 100% of cohort achieved 9-6's.

Mr. Meynell said "This is a superb set of GCSE and A Level results and our students should be immensely proud of all they have achieved. For the school, to have surpassed our pre-pandemic GCSE results and to also have recorded 9-8s and 9-7s above last year's figures is a cause for celebration, and my congratulations go to all students, their families and art team staff who have supported them so well during the last couple of years".

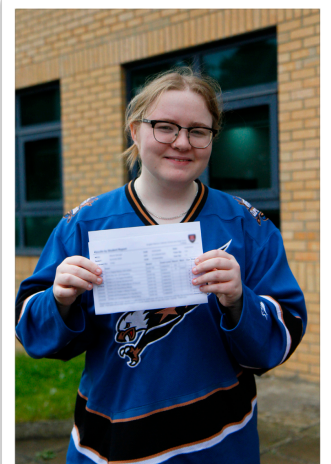
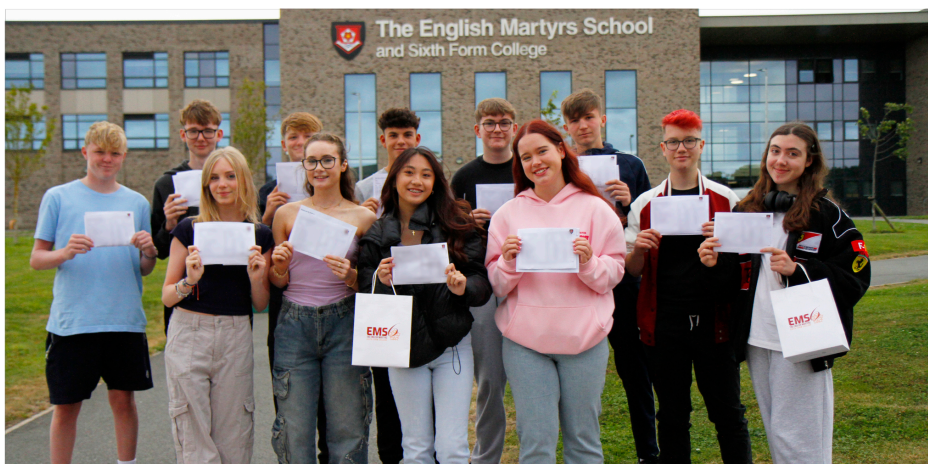
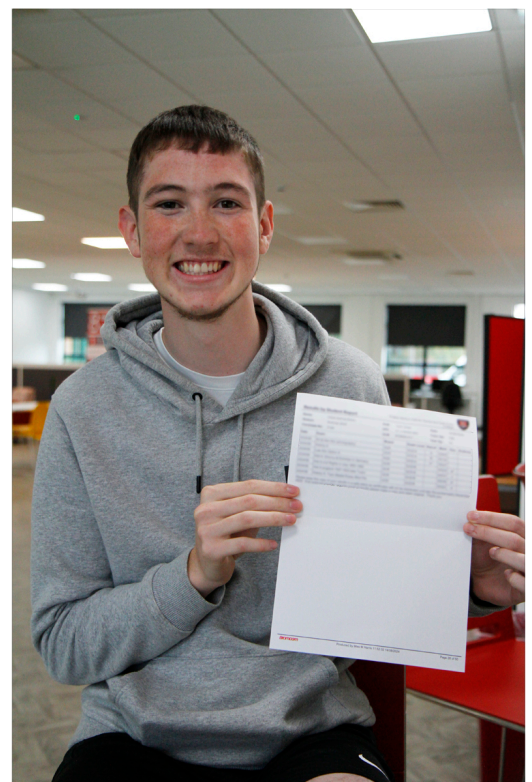
Mr. Meynell continues to add "today's results are underpinned by stories of great resilience, co-curricular endeavour and service, and we know that our consistently outstanding results are not only achieved through outstanding teaching, but also through the broad opportunities students engage in through our all-round education".

A Level headlines across all Art subjects:

100% of cohort achieved A*-C

85% of cohort achieved A*-B

23% of cohort achieved A* - A



Catholic Trust Annual Primary Arts Project

As part of our extensive and dynamic transition to Secondary School Art staff have continued an ambitious project to support Secondary readiness. Staff visited 6 Primary schools across Hartlepool working with all year 6 students, 270 students in total.

Schools involved were Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, St Bega's Catholic Primary School, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, St John Vianney, St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School and St Teresa's Catholic Primary School. Primary Arts 2023, collaborated with Primary teachers so that every student produced an illustrated digital portrait.

The project was influenced by the work of Pop artist Roy Lichtenstein encouraging students to explore and experiment with iPads and digital media. Every student involved absolutely loved the experience and really enjoyed being taught by a teacher from their desired Secondary school.

All portraits were displayed on the large screens around EMS and Large banners were printed to display all students' portraits and are on display in the Art department and the main school building. It was a pleasure visiting Year 6, being able to get to know them, to work alongside them and give them an insight into what art looks like at EMS.



Art Remembrance Artwork

To commemorate this year's Remembrance Day a group of Key Stage 3 SEND students took part in an art and ceramic focussed enrichment group. Accompanied by Miss. Shale students explored various potential designs on paper prior to working with clay. Students experimented with varying shapes, scale and carving methods. Finally work was left to dry, kiln fired, hand painted and framed and is now displayed in the SEND department.



Christmas Card 2024

Earlier in the term, we were asked if there were any high performing art students who we could ask to design a school Christmas card.

Freddie Meggison, in Year 12, loves art and is continually developing his talents working in a range of styles and using different media. We were impressed with the work that Freddie has been producing since starting A Level Graphic Design, so we asked him to have a go at designing a card. The only stipulation was that it needed to have a religious aspect to it.

Freddie produced his design drawing influence from various elements, angles and compositions of traditional Christmas related objects whilst threading and framing all elements with a clever interweaved tree structure.

The card was sent out far and wide by our Head of School Mrs. Hogarth. A fantastic effort from Freddie. We look forward to seeing his work develop over the next 2 years at English Martyrs.



3D Art Workshops

The art department have been able to offer two full day intense 3D art workshops. Miss. Bown and Mr. Carless have been working with all year 10 GCSE Art and Design students supporting their portraiture coursework units.

Both teachers carefully guided students through the design, build and decoration stages culminating in personal sculptures. All year 10 GCSE Art and Design students have been exploring and investigating the work of Gustav Klimt and have endeavoured to create ceramic responses guided by their art teachers. Miss Bown said "I love being part of such an energetic atmosphere and having that extra time with my year 10's to really explore and refine technique, especially in a practical subject as art, is incredible".

A student said "I was so excited to attend this workshop. We were told well before half term that this was on its way and shown a lot of impressive pieces by current year 11 students. I was inspired by the experience of being tutored by such a well-respected artist, to learn how to build, form and decorate large scale ceramics. I really enjoyed using all the various types of tools in the ceramic studio to create a detailed and highly decorative sculpture." – Erin Senior





**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England